IN THE CLAIMS:

1. to 5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently amended) A method for reinforcing a thin-walled honeycomb structure comprising:

providing a honeycomb structure having a circumferential wall, partition walls disposed inside the circumferential wall, and cell passages defined by the partition walls; and

coating the circumferential wall of the honeycomb structure with a high molecular weight organic reinforcing material in a narrow band at the edge portions of the honeycomb structure only,

wherein the organic reinforcing material dissipates at a high temperature, thereby protecting the edge portions of the honeycomb structure from damage before the structure is subjected to a baking treatment.

7. (Currently amended) A method for reinforcing a thin-walled honeycomb structure, comprising:

providing a honeycomb structure having a circumferential wall, partition walls located inside the circumferential wall, and cell passages defined by the partition walls;

impregnating and coating a circumferential portion of the honeycomb structure with a high molecular weight organic reinforcing material in a narrow band at the edge portions of the honeycomb structure only; and

curing the high molecular weight organic material,

wherein the organic reinforcing material dissipates at a high temperature, thereby protecting the edge portions of the honeycomb structure from damage before the structure is subjected to a baking treatment.

8. (Previously Presented) A method for reinforcing a thin-walled honeycomb structure according to claim 6 , wherein a high molecular weight organic material is filled in cell passages at a vicinity of a circumferential portion including a foremost outer circumferential portion of the honeycomb structure to coat an inner surface of said cell passages; or

a high molecular weight organic material is filled into the cell passages, and then the material is cured.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously Presented) A method for reinforcing a thin-walled honeycomb structure according to claim 6, wherein said high molecular weight organic reinforcing material is a photo-curing photo-reactive material.

12. (Previously Presented) A method for reinforcing a thin-walled honeycomb structure according to claim 7, wherein said high molecular weight organic reinforcing material is a photo-curing photo-reactive material.

13. (Previously Presented) A method for reinforcing a thin-walled honeycomb structure according to claim 8, wherein said high molecular weight organic reinforcing material is a photo-curing photo-reactive material.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Canceled)

16. (Currently Amended) A method for reinforcing a thin-walled honeycomb structure according to claim 6, wherein at least the circumferential portion of the honeycomb structure is reinforced with ~~a~~ the high molecular weight organic material after an injection molding, or after a drying before a firing but after injection-molding.

17. (Currently Amended) A method for reinforcing a thin-walled honeycomb structure according to claim 7, wherein at least the circumferential portion of the honeycomb structure is reinforced with ~~a~~ the high molecular weight organic material after an injection molding, or after a drying before a firing but after injection-molding.

18. (Currently Amended) A method for reinforcing a thin-walled honeycomb structure according to claim 8, wherein at least the circumferential portion of the honeycomb structure is reinforced with ~~a~~ the high molecular weight organic material after an injection molding, or after a drying before a firing but after injection-molding.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) A method for reinforcing a thin-walled honeycomb structure according to claim 11, wherein at least the circumferential portion of the extremity surface of the honeycomb structure is reinforced with ~~a~~ the high molecular weight organic material after an injection molding, or after a drying before a firing but after injection-molding.

22. (Currently Amended) A method for reinforcing a thin-walled honeycomb structure according to claim 6, wherein the reinforcing material is selected from the group consisting of ~~thermal setting~~ thermosetting resins, elastic resins, ultra-violet curing resins, rubber materials, and ~~pressure~~-sensitive pressure-sensitive adhesives.

23. (New) A method for reinforcing a thin-walled honeycomb structure according to claim 7, wherein the reinforcing material is selected from the group consisting of thermosetting resins, elastic resins, ultra-violet curing resins, rubber materials, and pressure-sensitive adhesives.